COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKING GROUP Borough Hall, 57 West Court Street, Doylestown

Friday, 8/20/2021 – 8:00 AM

Attendance: Council President Jack O'Brien, Joe Frederick, Larry Browne, Noni West, Mayor Ron Strouse, and Borough Manager John Davis.

The Minutes from the July 16, 2021 meeting were approved.

The group discussed local school districts and their masking decisions. Central Bucks School District is having a meeting to decide on masking and have discussed the meeting schedule with CBRPD to make them aware and perhaps have their attendance.

Street Closures/Outdoor Dining: John reviewed the upcoming schedule through August. Beyond that, there are no further street closures scheduled. September has other events planned and there may not be a need or desire for the outdoor dining/street closures to continue into Fall. Mayor Strouse suggested having a single event in October to encourage visits to town. There was some discussion on how outdoor dining via parking spaces would work, with fees paid based on potential lost revenues from parking fees. The group also discussed how to apply permission and issue permits via ordinance. The plan is to use the West Chester model, as their outdoor dining to possibly have fewer of them, with written regulations, and slightly eased regulations on entertainment. The open container ordinance will need to be revised to permit alcohol during outdoor dining; vendors will need to work the State LCB on their permissions. All of these items need to be discussed.

Delta Variant: John reviewed the current status of vaccinated Borough employees; all are fully vaccinated except one Public Works employee. Masks are required by unvaccinated visitors to Borough Hall as well as employees. In-person meetings are being limited unless required by law. There are further restrictions on the unvaccinated employee being worked out, to include not entering resident homes for repairs, although that will impact the rest of the department. At this point, full mask-wearing indoors again is a consideration, but it isn't felt to be necessary currently. Encouraging those who are not vaccinated to wear masks could be a confrontational issue. Mayor Strouse and Joe Frederick suggested encouraging all people to wear a mask in Borough Hall, although enforcing it is a challenge. John's suggestion was to wait for now, and encourage mask wearing for the unvaccinated for all Borough Hall visitors, including those attending public meetings.

The arts festival is outdoors, however, the vendors are often in tents with sides down, so they are partially enclosed. Mayor Strouse noted the vendors will be encouraged to wear masks, due to interaction with many people. Paul Boger asked Mayor Strouse to discuss how best to communicate this request through promoting upcoming events. Jack suggested following CDC guidelines, as they are frequently changing.

Vaccination Event: Mayor Strouse noted there is ongoing discussion with Doylestown Health on holding another public vaccination event.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05am.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Kramer Minutes Secretary